



DAWN BUCKINGHAM
STATE SENATOR

May 27, 2017

**Senator Dawn Buckingham Statement on Senate
Passage of 2018 - 2019 State Budget**

During my campaign I stressed my commitment to fiscal responsibility and my intention to put government spending on a diet. Consequently, I am pleased to support the Conference Committee Report on Senate Bill 1, also known as the 2018-19 state budget.

This budget actually spends nearly \$1.3 billion less in state General Revenue than the previous budget. State General Revenue is the part of the budget the legislature has the most discretion over, and I am proud to stand with other fiscal conservatives who insisted we hold the line on government spending while meeting the needs of a growing Texas.

I am also a staunch defender of the state's Rainy Day Fund, and while some one-time uses of the fund are included in Senate Bill 1, it is important to note that our Rainy Day Fund balance continues to grow and is estimated to be \$10.9 billion at the end of the next biennium.

Once again, the Texas Senate led by passing a budget that does not spend all the money the state will collect during the upcoming biennium. I would like to congratulate Senate Finance Committee Chair Jane Nelson, members of the Senate Finance Committee, and Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick for upholding the conservative fiscal principles that make Texas the economic engine of our nation.

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